

REMARKS

Claims 1-98, 133, 134, and 136-168 are pending of which claim 1-98, 133, 134 and 136-152 are indicated as allowed. The Examiner has rejected claims 153-168 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,342,250 or U.S. Patent App. No. 09/796,170. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. However, to advance prosecution of this Application and to obtain allowance on allowable claims at the earliest possible date, the Applicant is filing a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) to overcome the rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground. Therefore, no admission may be inferred by this response and the terminal disclaimers enclosed herein and the Applicants reserve the right to pursue similar claims in the future. Copies of the terminal disclaimers pursuant to 37 CFR 1.321(c) are attached with this response.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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